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# CATALOG

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# Sawyer Water Gardens

ELLET OHIO



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# Sawyer Water Gardens

The depression has helped the dooryard. Everybody has time for gardening. There is more interest shown in gardens and in pools than ever before. True, it is all being done on less money than before but prices are the lowest they've ever been. Water lilies are down to a third of what they brought a few years ago. Then too, concrete pools cost so little to build that every one who wants a water garden may have it.

Hardy water lilies are the most satisfactory flowers there are. They bloom for over four months of the year. They may be planted any time. They become established immediately. The flowers themselves are extremely beautiful, and they are out of the ordinary. Nothing in a garden will attract as much attention or give so much pleasure as a waterlily pool. The plants are hardy and will last for years with reasonable care.

## THE POOL

A six-foot concrete pool can be built for a dollar and a quarter. This is large enough for three waterlilies and a dozen goldfish. Goldfish will take care of the mosquito wrigglers.

## WATER SUPPLY

It will take about four gallons of water a week to keep a six-foot pool filled. This can easily be supplied from a cistern or a garden hose.

## DEPTH OF WATER

From four inches to two feet is all right, about a foot being ideal.

## SOIL

Waterlilies grow in soil the same as other plants, but they should have it richer than most. The ideal soil mixture is three parts clay loam and one part well rotted cow manure. Other soil and other kinds of manure will do, but for the very best results use clay and cow manure, if it is at all possible to get it. Each plant should have about two cubic feet of this mixture either confined in a box or loose on the bottom of the pool.

## SHADE OR SUN?

Waterlilies do not like shade but will tolerate it if not for over half the day. Full exposure to the sun is best.

## PLANTING TIME

Waterlilies may be planted from April to August. They can be moved in full bloom and will keep right on blooming.

## SHIPPING

Waterlilies are easily shipped by mail or express to any part of America. They can be sent at any time of year. If you have any preference as to parcel post or express, please specify. Small, light weight orders are generally sent by mail; heavier ones are usually sent by express, collect.

## COLORS

Hardy waterlilies are to be had in all colors except blue. Blue can be had in the tropics.

Until the banking situation gets straightened out, please remit by postal money order.

## BUILDING A POOL

The first thing for the waterlily grower to do is to build a pool. The six-foot circular one is an ideal beginning. Scoop out a saucer shaped, or rather a chopping bowl shaped, depression in the ground, six feet across and two feet deep and line it over all with an inch of concrete. Use this mixture: One bag Portland cement, two cubic feet (nearly two bushels) of clean, sharp sand and three cubic feet of pea gravel. Get this from any builders' supply house. Cover with burlap or paper or something to prevent rapid drying. The next day waterproof it by brushing with a creamy mixture of cement and water. The third day fill the pool with water and let it stand a few days, empty and refill and it is ready to plant. Better not bother with drain pipes or filter pipes. Instead fill it from the hose or cistern or well, and drain by siphoning or by dipping with a bucket. Before laying the cement, mark out the proposed edge with a spirit level; otherwise neither the water nor the rim of the pool will appear to lie level. The material for this pool costs a little over a dollar and the labor amounts to four hours.

## THE TWELVE FOOT POOL

A twelve foot pool is built in the same way using the same one inch shell of concrete. This twelve foot pool will take four times the material mentioned above, that is four sacks of cement, eight feet of sand and twelve of gravel. This makes an exceedingly fine pool and at very low cost. These shell pools may be made eggshaped as well as round but it is unwise to put fancy curves in for fear of cracking.

## RUNNING WATER

Running water should be avoided for it is generally too cold. Don't worry about the water becoming stagnant; water exposed to the sun and wind keeps surprisingly fresh. Often though, a hair-like green moss or algae forms in the water and becomes too unsightly to tolerate. It can be poisoned with copper sulphate (blue vitriol) which must be used with great caution, for an overdose will kill the fish. The usual amount to use is one part copper sulphate to a million parts water. For the six-foot pool try first a piece the size of a sweet pea seed, and if this does not do the work, double the amount every day until it does. Very hard water will often require ten times the amount that soft water will.

If the water ever should get scummy or stagnant looking, simply let the pool overflow on the lawn for an hour or two.

## WINTER CARE

In winter, protect the pool heavily with a covering of boards and leaves or straw, keeping the pool full of water. In a very shallow pool, pull the plants out and bury them in the ground below the frost level.

## MY GUARANTEE

My plants are all guaranteed to give satisfaction.

## TUB GARDENING

Waterlilies will grow in tubs, but I don't recommend this except for the dwarf and half dwarf varieties such as White Pygmy, Yellow Pygmy, Aurora, Solfatare, and Paul Hariot. Any of the free blooming sorts will bloom in

a tub, but it is a shame to waste a choice plant in cramped quarters. Nearly all of the other aquatic plants will do well in tubs, however, among them being water poppy, water hyacinth, snow flake, pickerel rush, arrowhead, wild rice, rushes, parrot feather, variegated sweetflag, and others. Concrete tubs are ridiculously easy to build. Follow the same directions as for building the six-foot pool.

## VARIETIES OF WATERLILIES

### RED

**Gloriosa or Glory**, medium to large, excellent flower, very free bloomer, no other in the world can surpass it for all around merit. Price \$2.00.

**James Brydon**, medium size, very similar to Gloriosa not quite so free a bloomer, but free enough. Always has at least one flower. Price \$2.00.

**Vesuvius (Vesuve)** medium, identical with Gloriosa, but a shade deeper in color; crab apple blossom fragrance, Price \$2.00

**Laydeckeri Fulgens**, very similar to Gloriosa, possibly a trifle smaller, and a little darker in color, an excellent variety. Price \$2.50.

**Attraction**, a rather large bloom with the inner petals very dark red and lighter sepals. One of the high favorites. Price \$3.00.

### PINK

**Marliacea Rosea**, pretty shade of rose pink. Free bloomer, robust grower. The best pink on the market. Price \$1.00.

**Rose Arey**, large, watermelon pink, a near red, fragrant, long narrow petals, one of the most beautiful flowers in existence, hardly free blooming enough for the very small pool, but glorious wherever it has room to spread into a colony. A box four feet square in a large concrete pool would take care of it alright. It is a splendid plant to naturalize in lakes and ponds. Price \$1.50.

**W. B. Shaw**, large, fragrant, light pink, tolerably free blooming, one of the best for large pools and good for small ones. The petals are rather long and narrow and the flower is strikingly beautiful. Price 75c.

**Pink Opal**, medium small, fragrant, almost a red. Good cut flower. Price 75c.

**Glory of Temple Surlot**. This one is only for the connoisseur since it is shy blooming and takes plenty of space. The flowers are large double pink and very fragrant. Its originator, Marliac, chose it from a hundred of his other creations to bear the name of his estate. Price \$5.00.

**Morning Glory**, **Marliacea Carne**, one of the best, free blooming, light pink flowers, very large, good companion for Gloriosa, \$2.00.

### YELLOW

**Chromatella**, medium size, clear lemon yellow, free blooming and a rapid grower, as good a plant as Gloriosa. One of the very best. Price 75c.

**Sun Rise**, giant, long pointed petals of extreme delicacy and fineness. In this we have a giant flower that is dainty.

The best introduction in recent years. Not uniformly hardy, however. Price \$3.00.

**Helvola, Yellow Pygmy**, little blossoms two inches across, free blooming, not spectacular, but awfully likeable. Will grow in a tub or dishpan. Price \$1.00.

### ORANGE

**Sioux**, medium, pointed petals, color cream and coral, a very beautiful flower. Price \$1.00.

**Paul Hariot**, medium small, glowing warm peach color, a high favorite with those who love pastel shades. Price \$2.00.

**Aurora**, half dwarf, opens lemon color, turns nasturtium red, very brilliant and sparkling. Good tub plant. Price \$1.00.

**Solfatare**, half dwarf, very delicate salmon, the pastel shade par excellence. When Solfatare grows big, which it only does in water about a foot deep and in rich soil, it throws a fairly large blossom which is even lovelier in shade than when the plant is small. Price \$1.00.

**Commanche**, medium, orange and bronze, a striking and almost startling color combination. Price \$2.00.

### WHITE

**Gladstone**, best white, free blooming, very adaptable either to the large pool where it reaches giant size, or to the small pool where confining the root a little will keep it medium in size. Price \$1.00.

**Alba Candidissima**, large fragrant white. Tolerably free bloomer, the white counterpart of W. B. Shaw. Pretty good in small pools and elegant for large ones. This is not the true A. Candidissima of botanists. Price 75c.

**Richardson**, giant double white; most beautiful of all the whites but not free blooming enough for small pools. Price \$1.00.

**White Pygmy**, dwarf, little blossoms size of cherry blossoms. Will grow in a small tub or pan. Good companion to Helvola. The two of them will get along nicely together in a small tub. Price \$1.00.

**Crystal White**, medium to large, the new and free blooming double white to replace Richardson. The flowers are so crisp and clean cut they look as if freshly carved out of dazzling white crystal. Free blooming, good all round plant. Still a little scarce. Price \$2.00.

### TROPICAL WATERLILIES

Tropicals like the same soil as hardies, rather shallow water (about six inches) and late planting. Plant any time in June or July. They are at their best in August and September. They are best treated as annuals and planted new each year. They more than pay for themselves in one season of bloom. The roots or rather crowns of Wm. Stone and Gracilis Rosea can sometimes be kept over in a warm cellar if stored rat-proof in damp earth.

### VARIETIES

#### BLUE

**Wm. Stone**, star shaped blossoms of deep blue, rich fragrance like ripe pear. Free blooming. Price \$1.50.

**Blue Zanzibar**, free blooming, fragrant, sky blue. Price \$1.50.

**Mrs. Edward Whitaker**, one of the very largest, some flowers over a foot across, light blue of beautiful satin texture. Price \$2.50.

**Blue Beauty or Pennsylvania**, one of the best blues, medium large, free blooming, strong growing. Price \$1.50.

**Panama-Pacific**, medium sized bloom of rich purple, fragrant. One of the favorites. This is one of the leaf propagators, the new plants growing from a bud in the center of the old leaves. This is an attractive oddity. Price \$1.75.

**August Koch**, medium size sky blue, fragrant. This is another mighty good variety. A leaf propagator. Price \$1.50.

**Dauben**, a dwarf pale blue tropical. Will do well in small tubs or large jardiniers set on a porch railing. Where you are cramped for space by all means try this one. Also a leaf propagator. The little plants growing out of the leaf attract a lot of attention. Price 75c.

## PINK

**Gracilis Rosea**, a rich pink, otherwise similar to Wm. Stone. Price \$1.50.

**Red Zanzibar**, lavender pink form of blue Zanzibar. Price \$1.50.

**General Pershing**, a giant pink similar in size and shape to Ed. Whitaker. This is a splendid big flower often well over twelve inches across. Price \$2.50.

## NIGHT BLOOMERS

These open their giant flowers about dark and stay open all night and until early forenoon next day. Very striking.

**Pink Night Bloomer**, large clear rose pink flower. Price \$1.50.

**White Night Bloomer**, giant white \$1.50.

## HARDY LOTUS (Nelumbium)

Lotuses are the aristocrats of the water garden. The leaves are circular, as large as washtubs and of the loveliest soft velvety green. Some of the leaves float while others stand high above the water. The flowers are as large as dinner plates. The single ones look much like magnolia blossoms and the doubles like large peonies.

Give lotuses the same soil as other waterlilies and at least eight cubic feet of it to a plant. They need full exposure to the sun and are best in rather shallow water, about six inches being the most favorable depth.

Lotuses are perfectly hardy in northern Ohio. They are a little tender, however, when newly moved. The best time to plant them is late May or early June. Start them in the warmest place available.

Where well established, lotuses are very free bloomers, but they seldom bloom much the first year.

The shipping roots are called bananas due to their shape. They should be planted horizontally in the soil.

## VARIETIES

**Egyptian Lotus**, large pink. Roots \$1.50.

**American Lotus**, creamy yellow, a magnificent plant; (easily grown); seed \$1.00.

**Magnolia or White Lotus**, seed only, \$1.00.

**Shiroman**, double white wonderful flower. \$2.00.



**Double Pink**, large double rose colored blooms, freely produced; finest of the lot. \$2.00.

### OTHER AQUATIC PLANTS

**Water Poppy**. This is an ideal plant. It has numerous yellow poppy like flowers and attractive floating leaves. Give the same care as a waterlily and allow room for it to spread. 3 for 50c.

**Water Hyacinth**. An old favorite, rosette shaped floating plant, leaf stems enlarged to form floats. Beautiful lavender flowers, iris like in texture. Does best in shallow water where roots can catch in rich soil. 3 for 50c.

**Pickerei Rush**. Hardy, forms large clumps with shiny heart shaped leaves and spikes of blue flowers produced all summer. A favorite. 2 for 50c.

**Wild Rice**. Like very graceful slender corn. Grows nine feet high. Beautiful to give the effect of height to any pond large or small. 3 for 50c.

**Parrot Feather**. Very pretty and popular moss like plant, glaucous green in color, semi-creeping and standing six inches out of water. Plant in soil in shallow water. Price 25c.

**Japanese Iris**. These are the large flat blossomed iris that bloom in late June and July. They will grow practically anywhere but are at their best a little above the water level where it is damp. We have a surplus of very large clumps that would be of value to any one who has a patch of marsh to plant. Large clumps are the same price as the others, the limiting factor being the freight charge. If we mail them prepaid we of necessity send small ones but will freight or express any size you ask for. 15 for \$1.00 or \$5.00 a hundred.

**Iris Pseudacorus**. Yellow water iris, grows anywhere. Has attractive rush-like foliage seven feet high, and pretty little yellow blossoms. 2 for 50c.

**Wild Iris**. Native, small pretty blue flowers. 2 for 50c.

**Water Forget-me-not**. The common European marsh Forget-me-not, but not near common enough. Everblooming. 3 for 50c.

**Narrow Leaf Cattail**. This is a refined cattail having a very graceful narrow leaf, and taller than the common variety. Very beautiful dancing in the wind. The tails are about as big as a lead pencil and are in demand for dried bouquets. 2 for 50c.

**Native Cowslip**. Well-known marsh plant, yellow flowers early in the spring. 3 for 50c.

### COLLECTIONS

#### ELLET GROUP \$3.00

Gladstone, James Brydon, Chromatella. This is a very popular collection, giving white, red and yellow at a reasonable price. These three plants will just nicely fill a small pool of six to eight feet.

#### IDEAL TRIO \$3.25

Gloriosa, Chromatella, and Sioux. Red, yellow and orange, and all extremely free blooming. Three are ideal for the six foot pool.

#### SUNSET COLORS \$5.25

Gloriosa, Gladstone, Sioux, Marliacea Rosea, and Chromatella. Red, white, orange, pink and yellow.

### **PYGMY PAIR \$1.50**

For small tub. Yellow Pygmy and White Pygmy. Not spectacular but awfully likeable.

### **LARGE TUB GROUP \$2.00**

Aurora, Yellow Pygmy, and White Pygmy. For a tub thirty inches across. Such tubs can be built of concrete very easily.

### **FOUR COLOR GROUP \$4.75**

Gloriosa, Chromatella, Gladstone, and Wm. Stone.

### **ECONOMY \$1.50**

Chromatella, W. B. Shaw, and Alba Candidissima. Yellow, pink, and white. The last two are deliciously fragrant. All three are exceedingly robust growing and able to take care of themselves naturalized.

### **BOOKS ON WATER GARDENING**

Waterlilies and Goldfish, by R. V. Sawyer and E. H. Perkins. \$1.50.

This book is written for the everyday gardener who has to keep an eye on the pocketbook and do his own work. It goes into the elementary details of handling waterlilies and goldfish and touches on the commercial end of both.

The water gardener on the big estate may want a more elaborate book which is:

The Water Gardener, by Peter Bisset. \$5.00.

This is an elegantly gotten up book which not only deals with the pool itself but also its landscape setting as well. Any one going into water gardening on a large scale simply has to have this book. It also gives quite an extensive treatise on fish.